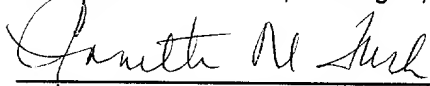


PATENT APPLICATION

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on **March 9, 2001**, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" mailing Label No. **EL762005069US** addressed to Box PCT, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Annette M. Turk, Legal Assistant

March 9, 2001
(Date)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jacobus Hubertus TACX

Serial No.: UNKNOWN

Priority claimed to NL 1014610

Filed: Herewith (March 9, 2001)

For: HOME TRAINER

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box: Patent Applications
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A home trainer designed to accommodate a bicycle, the home trainer comprising a brakable drive roll incorporated in a frame, which drive roll can be mounted in a friction coupling with a driven wheel of the bicycle, a sub-frame provided on the frame that is rotatable about a first pivoting point, the drive roll being mounted in the sub-frame, a handle provided on the frame and rotatable about a second pivoting point, which handle is adjustable between an operational position wherein the handle pushes the sub-frame towards the wheel such that the drive roll and the wheel maintain the friction coupling, and a neutral position wherein the handle releases the sub-frame such that the drive roll and the wheel do not engage.

2. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 wherein the handle is provided with an adjustable tuning knob for determining the position of the sub-frame in the operational position.

3. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 wherein at a side directed towards the sub-frame, the tuning knob is provided with a bush, and the sub-frame has a sliding rim designed to intermate with the bush, the sliding rim terminating in a recess which, when the bush is placed therein, determines the operational position of the handle.

4. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 wherein the drive roll is coupled with a flywheel that conducts at least partially magnetic lines of flux, and additionally comprising a position-adjustable magnet located near the flywheel.

5. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the magnet is adjustable to a position between a neutral position near a pivoting point of the flywheel and a maximal brake position near an outer circumference of the flywheel.

6. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the flywheel comprises recesses over a periphery located near the neutral position of the magnet.

7. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the flywheel comprises an aluminum disc and wherein a remainder of the flywheel is substantially made of steel.

8. A home trainer according to claim 4 wherein the magnet is coupled with a spring-loaded cable and the magnet is adjustable by operating a cable.

REMARKS


The foregoing amendment to the claims is being offered in a format acceptable to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. No new matter is presented by this Amendment. Entry of this amendment by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached paper is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Authorization is given to charge payment of any fees required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Acct. 13-4213.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 9, 2001

By: 
Jeffrey D. Myers, Reg. No. 35,964
Direct line: (505) 998-1502

PEACOCK, MYERS & ADAMS, P.C.
Attorneys for Applicant(s)
P.O. BOX 26927
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-6927

Telephone: (505) 998-1500
Facsimile: (505) 243-2542
Customer No. 005179

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

1. (Amended) A home trainer designed to accommodate a bicycle, the home trainer comprising a brakable drive roll incorporated in a frame, which drive roll can be mounted in a friction coupling with a driven wheel of the bicycle, [characterized in that on the frame (1)] a sub-frame [(7) is] provided on the frame that is rotatable about a first pivoting point [(6)], the drive roll [(5)] being mounted in the sub-frame [(7)], [and in that the frame (1) is further provided with] a handle [(9)] provided on the frame and rotatable about a second pivoting point [(8)], which handle is adjustable between an operational position [(Fig. 2)] wherein the handle [(9)] pushes the sub-frame [(7)] towards the wheel [(4)] such that the drive roll [(5)] and the wheel [(4)] maintain the friction coupling, and a neutral position [(Fig. 1)] wherein the handle releases the sub-frame [(7)] such that the drive roll [(5)] and the wheel [(4)] do not engage.

2. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 [, characterized in that] wherein the handle [(9)] is provided with an adjustable tuning knob [(10)] for determining the position of the sub-frame [(7)] in the operational position [(Fig. 2)].

3. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 1 [or 2, characterized in that] wherein at [the] a side directed towards the sub-frame [(7)], the tuning knob [(10)] is provided with a bush [(11)], and [in that] the sub-frame [(7)] has a sliding rim [(12)] designed to intermate with the bush [(11)], the sliding rim [(12)] terminating in a recess [(13)] which, when the bush is placed therein, determines the operational position [(Fig. 2)] of the handle [(9)].

4. (Amended) A home trainer according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the drive roll [(5)] is coupled with a flywheel [(14)] that conducts at least partially magnetic lines of flux, and [in that further] additionally comprising a position-adjustable magnet [(15)] is provided which is] located near the flywheel [(14)].

5. (Amended) A home trainer according to claim 4 [, characterized in that] wherein the magnet [(15)] is adjustable to a position between a neutral position near a pivoting point of the flywheel [(14)] and a maximal brake position near [the] an outer circumference [(14')] of the flywheel [(14)].

6. (Amended) A home trainer according to [one of the claims 4-5, characterized in that] claim 4 wherein the flywheel [is provided with] comprises recesses [(18) preferably] over a periphery located near the neutral position of the magnet [(15)].

7. (Amended) A home trainer according to [one of the claims 4-5, characterized in that] claim 4 wherein the flywheel comprises an [aluminium] aluminum disc [(19)] and [in that the] wherein a remainder of the flywheel [(14)] is substantially made of steel.

8. A home trainer according to [one of the claims 4-5, characterized in that] claim 4 wherein the magnet is coupled with a spring-loaded cable [(16)] and [that] the magnet [(15)] is adjustable by operating [the] a cable [(15)].

Ser. No. UNKNOWN

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